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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-second session
10 June-5 July 2002
Agenda item 8
Provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Committee

Draft provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Committee

Note by the Secretariat

1. In pursuance of paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979, and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly for their review the provisional agenda for its forty-third session, together with the required documentation.

2. In its decision 1983/163 of 22 July 1983, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources; and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

3. The draft provisional agenda, as set out below, for the forty-third session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority, will be completed at the end of the present session in the light of recommendations adopted by the Committee:

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1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

Documentation

Progress report on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 54/236)

4. Programme questions:

(a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 (in fascicle form)

(b) Evaluation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the subprogramme on the law of the sea and ocean affairs (E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.25)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on proposed evaluation themes for consideration by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-third session (E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.25)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fortieth session on the evaluation of global development trends, issues and policies, and global approaches to social and microeconomic issues and policies, and the corresponding subprogrammes in the regional commissions (A/55/16 and Corr.1 and 2)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fortieth session on the evaluation of the advancement of women (A/55/16 and Corr.1 and 2)

5. Coordination questions:

(a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

Documentation

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2002

(b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the future engagement of the United Nations system with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.31)

6. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.

7. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.

8. Provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-third session.

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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

I. Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) at United Nations Headquarters on 13 May 2002 and its substantive session from 10 June to 5 July 2002. It held a total of 20 meetings and a number of informal consultations.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the forty-second session, adopted by the Committee at its first meeting, is contained in annex I.

3. At its organizational session (1st meeting), on 13 May 2002, the Committee approved its programme of work for the forty-second session as contained in document E/AC.51/2002/L.2. It agreed, without prejudice to the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005 during the first part of its forty-second session and decided to review, if necessary, the holding of a second part of the session at a later stage.

4. In adopting the agenda, the Committee, in accordance with the decision taken at its organizational session, decided to consider at its forty-second session the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Strengthening the investigations functions in the United Nations system organizations (A/56/282) and the related comments by the Secretary-General and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon (A/56/282/Add.1).

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B. Election of officers

5. At its organizational meeting (1st meeting), on 13 May 2002, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Mr. Thomas Friedrich Heinrich **Mazet** (Germany), Chairman of the Committee for the forty-second session.

6. At its 1st and 6th meetings, on 13 May and 12 June, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following members of the Bureau for the forty-second session:

Vice-Chairpersons:

Mr. Collen Vixen **Kelapile** (Botswana)
Mr. Seyed Morteza **Mirmohammad** (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Ms. Beata **Baranska** (Poland)

Rapporteur:

Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

C. Attendance

7. The following States Members of the Committee were represented:

Argentina	Mexico
Bahamas	Nigeria
Bangladesh	Pakistan
Botswana	Peru
Brazil	Poland
Cameroon	Portugal
China	Republic of Korea
Cuba	Republic of Moldova
Ethiopia	Russian Federation
France	San Marino
Gabon	Tunisia
Germany	Ukraine
Indonesia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	United Republic of Tanzania
Italy	United States of America
Japan	Uruguay
Mauritania	Zimbabwe

8. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Algeria	Guatemala
Armenia	India
Austria	Ireland
Azerbaijan	Jamaica
Barbados	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Benin	Monaco
Burkina Faso	Mongolia
Costa Rica	Nepal
Croatia	Philippines
Czech Republic	Romania
Denmark	Saudi Arabia
Dominican Republic	Singapore
Egypt	Syrian Arab Republic
Fiji	Thailand
Greece	Uganda

9. The following regional commissions were represented:

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Regional Commissions New York Office

10. Also present at the session were the Under-Secretary-General for Management, the Legal Counsel, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the Executive Director of the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Controller, the Assistant Secretary-General for Mission Support, the Assistant Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries, and senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat.

11. At the invitation of the Committee, Mr. Khalil Issa Othman, Inspector in the Joint Inspection Unit, also participated in the work of the Committee.

D. Documentation

12. The list of documents before the Committee at its forty-second session is set out in annex II.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

13. At its 20th meeting, on 5 July 2002, the Committee adopted the draft report on the work of its forty-second session (E/AC.51/2002/L.6 and Add.1-33).

Annex I

Agenda for the forty-second session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
4. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme planning;
   (b) Proposed revisions to the medium-term for the period 2002-2005;
   (c) Evaluation.
5. Coordination questions:
   (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;
   (b) United Nations system-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s.
6. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
7. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.
8. Provisional agenda for the forty-third session.
9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session.

Annex II

List of documents before the Committee at its forty-second session

A/56/282	Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Strengthening the investigations functions in the United Nations system organizations"
A/56/282/Add.1	Comments by the Secretary-General and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Strengthening the investigations functions in the United Nations system organizations"
A/57/6 (Prog. 1)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 1. Political affairs
A/57/6 (Prog. 2)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 2. Disarmament
A/57/6 (Prog. 3)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 3. Peacekeeping operations
A/57/6 (Prog. 5)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 5. Legal affairs
A/57/6 (Prog. 7)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 7. Economic and social affairs
A/57/6 (Prog. 8)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 8. Africa: New Agenda for development
A/57/6 (Prog. 9)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 9. Trade and development
A/57/6 (Prog. 10)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 10. Environment
A/57/6 (Prog. 11)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 11. Human settlement
A/57/6 (Prog. 12)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 12. Crime prevention and criminal justice
A/57/6 (Prog. 13)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 13. International drug control
A/57/6 (Prog. 14)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 14. Economic development in Africa
A/57/6 (Prog. 15)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 15. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific
A/57/6 (Prog. 16)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 16. Economic development in Europe
A/57/6 (Prog. 17)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 17. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

A/57/6 (Prog. 18)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 18. Economic and social development in Western Asia
A/57/6 (Prog. 19)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 19. Human rights
A/57/6 (Prog. 24)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 24. Management and central support services
A/57/6 (Prog. 25)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 25. Internal oversight
A/57/6 (Prog. 26)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 Programme 26. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
A/57/62	Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001
A/57/68	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives
A/57/85	Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005
E/2002/55	Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2001
E/AC.51/2002/1	Annotated provisional agenda
E/AC.51/2002/2	Report of the Secretary-General on efficient and effective measures for management improvement
E/AC.51/2002/3	Note by the Secretary-General regarding progress in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on different methodologies that might be used to correct the geographical imbalance in hiring consultants
E/AC.51/2002/4	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the subprogrammes on General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and Economic and Social Council support and coordination
E/AC.51/2002/5	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of legal affairs
E/AC.51/2002/6	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-ninth session on the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme
E/AC.51/2002/7	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-ninth session on the in-depth evaluation of the electoral assistance programme

E/AC.51/2002/8	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa in the context of the final evaluation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development in Africa in the 1990s
E/AC.51/2002/L.1/Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the forty-second session
E/AC.51/2002/L.2	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work for the forty-second session
E/AC.51/2002/L.3	Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit
E/AC.51/2002/L.4	Note by the Secretariat on the current notional costs of documentation and meeting services; utilization of conference-servicing resources
E/AC.51/2002/L.5	Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Committee
E/AC.51/2002/L.6 and Add.1-33	Draft report of the Committee on its forty-second session
E/AC.51/2002/INF/1	List of delegations

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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

Addendum

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

(*Item 3*)

Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005

1. At its 18th and 19th meetings, on 24 and 25 June 2002, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/57/85).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005 and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. The Committee welcomed the timely submission of the outline and reaffirmed that in the consideration of the outline and through the entire budgetary process, provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 should be fully respected. Support was expressed for the priorities outlined in the document, which reflected those priorities set out in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

4. It was noted that the outline provided a preliminary indicative estimate of requirements for the period. However, the view was expressed that further

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clarifications were required on several aspects. Support was expressed for the continued implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration. It was observed that the outline did not clearly reflect any movement of resources from low-priority to high-priority areas. Queries were raised as to the emphasis on the areas of human rights and humanitarian affairs and common support services, as reflected in terms of percentage resource change outlined in the annex to document A/57/85. With regard to the level of the outline, concern was expressed that proposals reflected the addition of new mandates without reprioritizing existing programmes. It was noted that the proposed budget outline contained no concrete proposals for efficiency measures and did not reflect the impact of full implementation of regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. It was stated that it was not clear whether the proposals reflected a continued commitment to budgetary discipline and the impact of the implementation of reform initiatives, including further streamlining. In particular, concern was expressed regarding the need to take into account expected efficiency gains arising from the implementation of results-based budgeting and human resource management reform. The view was expressed that the amount of $44.9 million of the $59.3 million for strengthening the security and safety of United Nations premises should be deducted as one-time costs in 2002-2003. It was noted that even the current service cutbacks, which negatively affected the quality of service delivery, could not be sustained in the long run without becoming counterproductive, and efforts should be made to bring services to a level that would not prejudice programme delivery any further.

5. Clarification was sought regarding the full provision for new posts. It was noted that the amount for full provision in 2004-2005 for posts newly approved in 2002-2003 resulted from the application of current standard methodology. The view was expressed that the practice of budgeting for newly created professional posts on a 50 per cent basis should be continued so as to take into account the time necessary for recruitment. It was stated that when new professional posts were proposed the Secretary-General should provide information on their full financial impact in subsequent budget periods. At the same time, support was expressed regarding the consideration of costing future new post proposals on a full-cost basis so as to avoid the delayed impact of growth in subsequent bienniums. In particular, it was asked whether the ongoing human resource reform initiatives would reduce recruitment delays to levels consistent with such a methodology. On the other hand, the view was also expressed that the proposal for full budgetary provisions for new posts should be commended.

6. With regard to provisions for information technology and common services, it was stated that no efficiency savings appeared to be identified. The view was expressed that there was no basis for including the amount of $29.8 million for restoring funds that were not approved for the programme budget for 2002-2003. It was also stated that the General Assembly had set a prerequisite for significant investment in information technology, i.e., a clear, coherent strategy. Clarifications were sought regarding the relationship between the Integrated Management Information System and other information technology. Queries were raised regarding the implications of supplementary information technology and common services for conference services. It was noted that proposals should include sufficient resources for conference services to bring the services to a level that

would meet the requirements of Member States and to rectify the current circumstances, especially for meetings of the regional groups. It was also stated that it was not clear how proposed increases in common services related to programme priorities.

7. With regard to special political missions, it was noted that the consideration of the inclusion of these activities in the regular budget was an important issue, and that a different treatment, similar to that for the financing of peacekeeping operations and international tribunals, might be considered. The question was raised as to why the difficulties related to the treatment of these activities had not been brought to the attention of the Committee earlier. Concern was expressed as to how such missions could be planned under the regular budget when they were not treated in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. It was recalled that the General Assembly had previously taken a decision on this issue. It was acknowledged that special political missions were unique, but it was noted that their inclusion in the regular budget enhanced predictability and required better estimates. The view was expressed that these activities should continue to be included in the regular budget. It was also stated that consideration of this issue could be flexible. It was noted that the provision for special political missions in the outline for the biennium 2004-2005 was proposed at a level of approximately twice that approved for the current biennium. It was also observed that the circumstances of the past year had been exceptional. Concern was expressed regarding the proposed level of resources estimated in the outline for special political missions. It was stated that any provision for these activities should be realistic and transparent.

8. The view was expressed that several proposals in the outline suggested a return to an era of ever-increasing budgets, when budget decision-making was focused on how much to add to the last budget.

9. It was considered that sustained reform and continuous improvement could and would have a significant favourable impact on the resource requirements of the Organization.

10. Support was expressed for the reflection of the approximation of inflation rates on the proposals in the outline. It was also noted that exchange rates could not be reliably predicted at this stage for the time periods covered by the outline.

11. Support was expressed for the recommendation to set the size of the contingency fund at a level of 0.75 per cent for the biennium 2004-2005.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. The Committee considered the outline, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/213, annex I, using as a framework the four elements listed in paragraph 1 of the report of the Secretary-General, namely:

(a) Preliminary estimate of resources to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(b) Priorities, reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(c) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

(d) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources.

13. The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/57/85) and recommended that the General Assembly should give further consideration to all the aspects contained in the proposed programme budget outline, in the light of the discussions reported above and taking into account the following:

(a) The preliminary estimates should be adequate for the full implementation of all mandated programmes and activities;

(b) The Committee noted that in September the Secretary-General would submit reform proposals to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session pertaining to the continued process of strengthening the Organization, and that any implications that the reform would have for the proposed programme budget outline would be addressed at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

(c) The Committee recalled resolution 53/206, in which the General Assembly endorsed the proposal of the Secretary-General that provision should be made in the budget outline for expenditures for special political missions related to peace and security expected to be extended or approved in the course of the biennium;

(d) While noting that the Secretary-General would reflect, in his budget submission, additional cost-effectiveness measures and simplified procedures, the Committee recommended that the Secretary-General's review of possible obsolete activities should remain within the context of relevant Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

(e) The Committee recommended approval of the priorities contained in paragraph 11 of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for 2004-2005;

(f) The Committee recommended also that the size of the contingency fund should be 0.75 per cent of the budget outline total and reaffirmed resolution 41/213, in particular the provision requiring reprogramming of activities when the contingency fund is fully utilized.

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Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina)

Addendum

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

(*Item 3*)

Report of the Secretary-General on efficient and effective measures for management improvement

1. At its 18th and 19th meetings, on 24 and 25 June 2002, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on efficient and effective measures for management improvement (E/AC.51/2002/2). The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the report and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

2. It was noted that the report of the Secretary-General was comprehensive in scope and provided a useful overview of work in progress with regard to measures for management improvement, both within the United Nations Secretariat and across the common system of organizations. An illustrative sample of measures taken by organizations covered seven areas of management innovations: enhancement of monitoring capacity and performance measurement; leveraging technology; streamlining rules, processes and procedures; strengthening common services; improving human resources management; strengthening financial management; and enhancing accountability and delegation of authority. Specific efforts had been taken

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in the Department of Management of the United Nations Secretariat and in the High-level Committee on Management (HLCM) of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) to put in place mechanisms for cooperation, learning and sharing of experience. HLCM had a particular role to play in the development of a strategy for cooperation and coordination in management improvement measures, in aggregating and analysing information and in establishing good management practice.

3. It was also noted that management improvement measures were an integral part of the Secretary-General's initiatives for reform of the Organization. Productivity remained a central concern. Monitoring the impact of improvements, to ensure that change actually happened in a verifiable way, was another critical concern. Virtually all of the organizations of the United Nations common system were learning how to tie their administrative and management activities into the overall framework of a results-based approach.

4. Delegation expressed appreciation for the manner in which a broad array of management improvement initiatives had been presented against a background of change management in the organizations. It was necessary, however, to ensure that sound coordination mechanisms were in place to ensure that good ideas were widely disseminated and that duplication of effort was avoided. At the same time, monitoring tools were needed to track progress in the different areas of work. The proposed progress and impact-reporting system being developed by the Management Policy Office of the Department of Management would be useful in that regard. A parallel mechanism was the productivity-knowledge gateway, which focused on assessing individual and team-based productivity measures.

5. Delegations supported rigorous efforts towards achieving an electronic United Nations. Many organizations had made a considerable investment in information and communications technology, and it was important that every effort be made to share best practices. The role of such technology was central to future management improvements. Some difficulties had been encountered in the efforts to more closely integrate information and communications technology platforms across organizations, but the HLCM network and the United Nations information and communications technology strategy were addressing those issues.

6. A number of delegations observed that future work on management improvement measures needed to focus on both their quantitative and qualitative impact. The view was expressed that the report had presented a positive picture without examining the shortfalls or negative aspects of improvement measures. The view was also expressed that the nature of the report was more quantitative than qualitative. While a considerable amount of work had been undertaken by the United Nations and the other organizations of the common system, specific efforts should continue towards developing more coherent approaches and a more detailed impact assessment of improvement measures. Delegations acknowledged the difficulty of pinning down real results, for example the results of introducing new processes or technology. It was not sufficient to claim that management improvement measures were effective or efficient: the results of change had to be demonstrated by comparing the situation before and after specific projects were carried out. On the other hand, delegations expressed the view that there had been noticeable improvements in such areas as the streamlining of rules, the introduction of such procedures as the new Galaxy system for recruitment, placement, promotion

and mobility, and the development of management indicators (the key item management-reporting system). It would be useful to emphasize the linkage between management improvement measures and delegating authority to programme managers while holding them accountable for decisions. There again, monitoring would be crucial.

7. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of the Secretary-General to use the High-level Committee on Management of CEB to stimulate the exchange of experience and good management practice. Within the United Nations, the role of the Senior Management Group, the Steering Committee on Reform and Management and the Management Policy Committee were critical. The use of inter-agency networking and the development of the progress and impact reporting system were broadly supported: in future, emphasis would have to be placed on measuring actual improvement rather than on simply describing the intent of management improvement initiatives.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee took note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on efficient and effective measures for management improvement (E/AC.51/2002/2). The Committee was of the view that a broad range of initiatives had been presented in a useful format. At the same time, there remained scope for more rigorous analysis of the specific impact of improvement measures and for analysis of the problems and challenges faced by the organizations of the system. The Committee welcomed the examples cited in the report in regard to the sharing of experience and good management practice.

9. The Committee affirmed its support for the mechanisms for inter-agency cooperation and networking that had been placed under the aegis of the High-level Committee on Management of CEB. It also recommended that the work of the Management Policy Committee of the Department of Management should go forward with regard to the development of the progress and impact reporting system, both as a monitoring tool and as a means of assessing more rigorously the impact of management improvement measures. The Committee felt that the strategy proposed in the report for intensifying inter-agency knowledge-sharing and assessment of the results of management improvement measures should receive priority so that future reports would be more focused on impact analysis.

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Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

Addendum

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Item 3

Progress in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on different methodologies that might be used to correct the geographical imbalance in hiring consultants

1. At its 19th meeting, on 25 June 2002, the Committee considered the note of the Secretary-General on progress in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on different methodologies that might be used to correct the geographical imbalance in hiring consultants (E/AC.51/2002/3). The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the report.

Discussion

2. The view was expressed that it would have been preferable for the Secretariat to present not one but several options for discussion on this issue. Divergent views were expressed concerning the applicability of a geographical quota as a proper tool for achieving geographical balance for consultants and individual contractors.

3. The view was expressed that since it constituted a rather minor expense of the budget of the Organization, the search for a means to solve the problem of the imbalance in hiring consultants should not be a priority. Other views were expressed

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to the effect that, on the contrary, the issue was a matter of principle regardless of the costs involved.

4. It was observed that information on why certain Member States were not represented was not available.

5. The view was also expressed that there was some doubt about the results of the calculation as per the adopted methodologies, which identified some countries as overrepresented when they might not be so.

6. Divergent opinions were expressed on whether an in-depth multi-year study proposed by the Secretary-General should take place. The view was also expressed that a study was necessary but that it should be completed in a shorter period of time. It was noted that additional information should be provided, such as the ratio of postulants to posts, in order to allow a broader analysis of the context of the imbalance in hiring consultants.

7. The view was expressed that greater efforts should be made by the Secretariat to achieve geographical balance among consultants and individual contractors.

8. One delegation expressed concern that due regard be given to merit in the hiring of consultants and contractors. The Secretariat assured the Committee that current practice and procedure would be maintained when giving consideration to correcting the geographical imbalance.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. **The Committee took note of the note of the Secretary-General on progress in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on different methodologies that might be used to correct the geographical imbalance in hiring consultants (E/AC.51/2002/3).**

10. **The Committee recommended that the Secretariat make greater efforts to ensure geographical balance among qualified consultants and individual contractors, and that the General Assembly further consider the matter at its fifty-seventh session in the context of the relevant item.**

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Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: programme planning

(Item 4 (a))

Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001

1. At its 5th and 6th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2002, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/57/62).

2. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report of the Secretary-General and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of it.

Discussion

3. Appreciation was expressed for the report on programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001, which was considered to be a comprehensive, informative and useful reference document on the performance of the Secretariat. The quality of the report with regard to clarity and methodology was commended; the report more closely resembled what was wanted and enabled Member States to review each section easily. The usefulness of the report was considered to be due to its focus on numerical information and the comparative picture regarding programme execution. With the introduction of results-based

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budgeting, it was felt that future reports would include more analysis and qualitative tables.

4. The average implementation rate of 83 per cent of the programmed outputs achieved by the Secretariat was acknowledged as realistic and reasonable. The reporting modalities in the United Nations had been considerably improved with the use of the Integrated Monitoring and Documentation Information System, and it was deemed desirable to extend the system to evaluations.

5. It was noted with concern that not all programme managers accorded monitoring and reporting the required priority. Departments were encouraged to employ the programme monitoring information on a continuous basis throughout the biennium to aid and improve programme management.

6. It was also noted with concern that the lowest implementation rate was observed in programmes related to development, and that the report did not provide precise and correct information. Concern was also expressed that some activities that were not mandated in the medium-term plan were implemented.

7. Concerns were raised over the number and nature of the terminations reported. There had been some increase in the number compared with the previous biennium, and that trend should be closely watched so that the causes could be addressed. It was observed that many of the terminations were decided by the Secretariat, which was reminded that this should be done through the intergovernmental process in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8). It was accepted that activities could be carried forward to the next biennium if they were still relevant, but should then be given priority for completion in that biennium.

8. It was recognized that the programme performance report for the current biennium would be more complex with the introduction of results-based budgeting, given that more emphasis would be on qualitative reporting. Support was expressed for the approach taken by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in conducting the next reporting exercise, and the need for training was emphasized in order to assist programme managers in fulfilling their reporting responsibilities.

9. With regard to the results-based budgeting format, there was still a need to refine the indicators of achievement and expected accomplishments and to strengthen the linkage between them. It was observed that some texts in the quantitative tables were lengthy and did not convey what had been accomplished. Attention should be paid to the correlation between the reported accomplishment realized and the indicators of achievement. Further improvement in the reporting format was anticipated.

10. The presentation of the conclusions drawn from the qualitative assessments by the Millennium Declaration theme was discussed. Several observations were made with regard to the differences in the implementation rates of individual programmes. It was noted that a number of the programmes with implementation rates of less than 80 per cent were those that affected developing countries, particularly those in Africa.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. The Committee noted the implementation rate achieved during the biennium as well as the accomplishments realized and commended programme managers and staff for their initiative and resourcefulness in programme management in response to legislative mandates. In this regard, the Committee emphasized the need to respect all the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including that concerning delegation of authority.

12. The Committee recommended that future performance reports provide more detailed information in the event of a relatively low implementation rate.

13. The Committee noted the progress achieved in developing the modalities and the format of programme performance reporting and the efforts to strengthen the expertise and commitment of programme managers. It urged all programme managers, without exception to fulfil their responsibilities with respect to self-evaluation and monitoring. It suggested that consideration be given to including in managers' performance appraisals a standard personal objective to ensure full and efficient compliance with those requirements and to develop their use as a management and accountability tool.

14. The Committee emphasized that programme monitoring should be continuous and comprehensive and that it should lead to the appropriate legislative and management adjustments to ensure full implementation of all mandated programmes in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

15. The Committee recommended that, in response to General Assembly resolution 53/207 of 18 December 1998, the qualitative evaluation be improved in a comprehensive manner in terms of objectives, strategies, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, taking into account Assembly resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000.

16. The Committee noted the view expressed in paragraph 70 of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001 that considerable effort was still required to muster sufficient expertise in translating programmatic goals into clear and comprehensive indicators of expected accomplishments, achievement and accomplishments realized, and that the expertise of United Nations staff should be solid enough to develop strong linkages between expected accomplishment, indicators of achievement and the accomplishments reported.

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Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: programme planning

(Item 4 (a))

Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001

1. At its 5th and 6th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2002, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/57/62).

2. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report of the Secretary-General and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of it.

Discussion

3. Appreciation was expressed for the report on programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001, which was considered to be a comprehensive, informative and useful reference document on the performance of the Secretariat. The quality of the report with regard to clarity and methodology was commended; the report more closely resembled what was wanted and enabled Member States to review each section easily. The usefulness of the report was considered to be due to its focus on numerical information and the comparative picture regarding programme execution. With the introduction of results-based

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budgeting, it was felt that future reports would include more analysis and qualitative tables.

4. The average implementation rate of 83 per cent of the programmed outputs achieved by the Secretariat was acknowledged as realistic and reasonable. The reporting modalities in the United Nations had been considerably improved with the use of the Integrated Monitoring and Documentation Information System, and it was deemed desirable to extend the system to evaluations.

5. It was noted with concern that not all programme managers accorded monitoring and reporting the required priority. Departments were encouraged to employ the programme monitoring information on a continuous basis throughout the biennium to aid and improve programme management.

6. It was also noted with concern that the lowest implementation rate was observed in programmes related to development, and that the report did not provide precise and correct information. Concern was also expressed that some activities that were not mandated in the medium-term plan were implemented.

7. Concerns were raised over the number and nature of the terminations reported. There had been some increase in the number compared with the previous biennium, and that trend should be closely watched so that the causes could be addressed. It was observed that many of the terminations were decided by the Secretariat and was understood that those decisions were adopted in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8). It was accepted that activities could be carried forward to the next biennium if they were still relevant, but should then be given priority for completion in that biennium. It was stated that the qualitative evaluation of the Millennium Declaration was focused only on accomplishments, and that in the future there should be a more objective presentation dealing with the objectives and indicators of achievement in connection with the activities related to the Millennium Declaration.

8. It was recognized that the programme performance report for the current biennium would be more complex with the introduction of results-based budgeting, given that more emphasis would be on qualitative reporting. Support was expressed for the approach taken by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in conducting the next reporting exercise, and the need for training was emphasized in order to assist programme managers in fulfilling their reporting responsibilities.

9. With regard to the results-based budgeting format, there was still a need to refine the indicators of achievement and expected accomplishments and to strengthen the linkage between them. It was observed that some texts in the quantitative tables were lengthy and did not convey what had been accomplished. Attention should be paid to the correlation between the reported accomplishment realized and the indicators of achievement. Further improvement in the reporting format was anticipated.

10. The presentation of the conclusions drawn from the qualitative assessments by the Millennium Declaration theme was discussed. Several observations were made with regard to the differences in the implementation rates of individual programmes. It was noted that a number of the programmes with implementation rates of less than 80 per cent were those that affected developing countries, particularly those in Africa.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. The Committee noted the implementation rate achieved during the biennium as well as the accomplishments realized and commended programme managers and staff for their initiative and resourcefulness in programme management in response to legislative mandates. In this regard, the Committee emphasized the need to respect all the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including that concerning delegation of authority.

12. The Committee recommended that future performance reports provide more detailed information in the event of a relatively low implementation rate.

13. The Committee noted the progress achieved in developing the modalities and the format of programme performance reporting and the efforts to strengthen the expertise and commitment of programme managers. It urged all programme managers, without exception to fulfil their responsibilities with respect to self-evaluation and monitoring. It suggested that consideration be given to including in managers' performance appraisals a standard personal objective to ensure full and efficient compliance with those requirements and to develop their use as a management and accountability tool.

14. The Committee emphasized that programme monitoring should be continuous and comprehensive and that it should lead to the appropriate legislative and management adjustments to ensure full implementation of all mandated programmes in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

15. The Committee recommended that, in response to General Assembly resolution 53/207 of 18 December 1998, the qualitative evaluation be improved in a comprehensive manner in terms of objectives, strategies, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, taking into account Assembly resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000.

16. The Committee noted the view expressed in paragraph 70 of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001 that considerable effort was still required to muster sufficient expertise in translating programmatic goals into clear and comprehensive indicators of expected accomplishments, achievement and accomplishments realized, and that the expertise of United Nations staff should be solid enough to develop strong linkages between expected accomplishment, indicators of achievement and the accomplishments reported.

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Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 1
Political affairs

1. At its 9th meeting, on 17 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 1, "Political affairs" (A/57/6 (Prog. 1)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 1 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan in respect of programme 1, as they were in general, in conformity with legislative mandates.

4. The view was also expressed that the medium-term plan formed the basis of preparing the biennial programme budgets and that the programme budgets should thus be based on the medium-term plan, and not the reverse.

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5. It was recognized that the Department of Political Affairs was the lead department for implementation of a number of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, including, inter alia, the ones on counter-terrorism, which entailed additional tasks for the Department. It was underscored that other parts of the Secretariat, such as the Office of Legal Affairs, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and other members of the Executive Committee on Peace and Security, should also be fully involved, and their respective roles should be clearly defined. It was pointed out that coordination among these departments was of paramount importance to ensure coherence and to avoid duplication of activities.

6. Support was expressed for the efforts of the African people in achieving peace and development in the African continent. The view was expressed that the Organization should play a greater role in efforts for achieving peace and development in Africa.

7. The view was expressed that mandates for the holding of elections were the prerogative of the General Assembly and not of the Security Council. Concerning the indicators of achievement for subprogramme 2, "Electoral assistance", concern was expressed that transparency in the electoral processes of Member States requesting assistance for the conduct of elections was difficult to measure, and could be subjected to value judgement.

8. It was observed that while there were several expert panels and monitoring groups, established by the Security Council, not all of them were mentioned in the proposed revisions.

9. In discussing the proposed revisions under subprogramme 4, "Decolonization", it was stated that the expected accomplishments and the indicators of achievement shown in the existing medium-term plan were more complete and comprehensive than the proposed revisions.

Conclusions and recommendations

10. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 1, Political affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 1.4

Replace the paragraph with the following:

> **"In its capacity as the lead department on the subject of terrorism, the Department of Political Affairs will work with the Centre for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and with other relevant Departments within the Secretariat in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)".**

Subprogramme 2, Electoral assistance

Expected accomplishments

Paragraph 1.12

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.11 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 1.13

[Delete the words "transparency and".]

Paragraph 1.13

[Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.12 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1."]

Paragraph 1.13

[Replace the paragraph with the following:

"Improvement [including accountability] in the provision of electoral assistance to Member States in response to their requests".]

Subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs

Strategy

Paragraph 1.15

In the third sentence, delete the words "to the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its work, as well as"

Paragraph 1.15

Delete the words "on Afghanistan".

Paragraph 1.15

Replace the Security Council resolution number "1363 (2001)" with the number "1419 (2002)".

Subprogramme 4, Decolonization

Expected accomplishments

Paragraph 1.23

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.22 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 1.24

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.23 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, a contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 1.25

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.24 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Subprogramme 5, Question of Palestine

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 1.29

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"An indicator of achievement would be an increase in the level of dialogue, engagement and support from the relevant international community actors for the subprogramme's objectives".

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1, Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts

General Assembly resolutions

Add resolution 56/88 on measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council resolutions

Add resolution 1373 (2001) on measures to eliminate international terrorism

Subprogramme 4, Decolonization

General Assembly resolutions

[Add decision 56/410 on the question of Falkland Islands/Malvinas]

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Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

Addeadum

Programme questions: Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 1
Political affairs

1. At its 9th meeting, on 17 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 1, "Political affairs" (A/57/6 (Prog. 1) and Corr.1).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 1 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan in respect of programme 1, as they were in general, in conformity with legislative mandates.

4. The view was also expressed that the medium-term plan formed the basis of preparing the biennial programme budgets and that the programme budgets should thus be based on the medium-term plan, and not the reverse.

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5. It was recognized that the Department of Political Affairs was the lead department for implementation of a number of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, including, inter alia, the ones on counter-terrorism, which entailed additional tasks for the Department. It was underscored that other parts of the Secretariat, such as the Office of Legal Affairs, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and other members of the Executive Committee on Peace and Security, should also be fully involved, and their respective roles should be clearly defined. It was pointed out that coordination among these departments was of paramount importance to ensure coherence and to avoid duplication of activities.

6. Support was expressed for the efforts of the African people in achieving peace and development in the African continent. The view was expressed that the Organization should play a greater role in efforts for achieving peace and development in Africa.

7. The view was expressed that mandates for the holding of elections were the prerogative of the General Assembly and not of the Security Council. Concerning the indicators of achievement for subprogramme 2, "Electoral assistance", concern was expressed that transparency in the electoral processes of Member States requesting assistance for the conduct of elections was difficult to measure, and could be subjected to value judgement.

8. It was observed that while there were several expert panels and monitoring groups, established by the Security Council, not all of them were mentioned in the proposed revisions.

9. In discussing the proposed revisions under subprogramme 4, "Decolonization", it was stated that the expected accomplishments and the indicators of achievement shown in the existing medium-term plan were more complete and comprehensive than the proposed revisions.

Conclusions and recommendations

10. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 1, Political affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 1.4

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"In its capacity as the lead department on the subject of terrorism, the Department of Political Affairs will work with the Centre for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and with other relevant Departments within the Secretariat in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)".

Subprogramme 2, Electoral assistance

Expected accomplishments

Paragraph 1.12

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.11 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs

Strategy

Paragraph 1.15

In the third sentence, delete the words "to the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its work, as well as".

Paragraph 1.15

Delete the words "on Afghanistan".

Paragraph 1.15

Replace the Security Council resolution number "1363 (2001)" with the number "1419 (2002)".

Subprogramme 4, Decolonization

Expected accomplishments

Paragraph 1.23

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.22 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 1.24

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.23 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, a contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 1.25

Retain the original wording of paragraph 1.24 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Subprogramme 5, Question of Palestine

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 1.29

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"An indicator of achievement would be an increase in the level of dialogue, engagement and support from the relevant international community actors for the subprogramme's objectives".

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1, Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts

General Assembly resolutions

Add resolution 56/88 on measures to eliminate international terrorism.

Security Council resolutions

Add resolution 1373 (2001) on measures to eliminate international terrorism.

Subprogramme 4, Decolonization

General Assembly decisions

Add decision 56/410 on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

11. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly, at its fifty-seventh session, further consider proposals on paragraph 1.13 of the programme.**

12. **The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General provide further information to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the applicability of Regulation 4.13 and Rule 104.8 governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation with regard to the revisions to the list of legislative mandates in programme 1.**

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Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 2
Disarmament

1. At its 9th meeting, on 17 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 2, Disarmament (A/57/6 (Prog. 2)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 2 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan under programme 2, which reflected action taken by the General Assembly during its fifty-sixth session in its resolutions 56/24 T on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and 54/24 V on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, as well as changes in the programme narrative, in line with General Assembly resolution 56/253.

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4. Satisfaction was expressed with the new indicator of achievement proposed under subprogramme 2, Weapons of mass destruction, contained in paragraph 2.17 (d). The view was expressed that that indicator of achievement could be easily measured and that it was appropriate to include it under the subprogramme. Queries were raised about the additional expected accomplishments and indicators of achievements proposed and about the method of measurement to quantify satisfaction by States Parties. The view was also expressed that the proposed revisions under programme 2 should be consistent with all the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 56/24 T and 56/24 V.

Conclusions and recommendations

5. **The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 2, Disarmament, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:**

Paragraph 2.16 (a)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 2.16 (a) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraphs 2.19 (a), 2.19 (b) and 2.23 (d)

In the French version, include the words "small arms" before the words "light weapons" in every instance where the latter words appear.

Paragraph 2.14 (d)

Replace the subparagraph with the following to reflect the relevant provision of General Assembly resolution 56/24 T:

> **"Assist Member States, at their request, in their efforts in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism".**

Paragraph 2.16 (c)

Replace the subparagraph with the following to reflect the relevant provision of General Assembly resolution 56/24 T:

> **"Enhanced multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, within existing mandates, as a contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security and the global efforts against terrorism".**

Paragraph 2.17 (a)

Delete the last sentence, reading "This would include sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference and ad hoc meetings".

Paragraph 2.17 (d)

Replace the subparagraph with the following to reflect the relevant provision of General Assembly resolution 56/24 T:

> **"Greater awareness of States of the need for progress in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism".**

Paragraph 2.23 (a)

Replace the words "Further development" with the words "Improved functioning".

Paragraph 2.23 (d)

Delete the words "conventional disarmament initiatives, including".

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Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 3
Peacekeeping operations

1. At its 9th meeting, on 17 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 3, Peacekeeping operations (A/57/6 (Prog. 3)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 3 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. General support was expressed for the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan under programme 3 since the proposed revisions conformed to legislative mandates. The establishment of mine action coordination as a separate subprogramme was welcomed. It was noted that the proposed indicators of achievement were in general relevant and quantifiable. Queries were raised, however, on some revisions of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement made on the basis of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

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4. Reference was made to the expected accomplishments and indicator of achievement related to gender issues in paragraphs 3.7 and 3.8 of subprogramme 1, Operations. Their placement under that subprogramme was questioned since gender mainstreaming was a cross-cutting issue and should have been addressed either in the overall orientation or in the strategy of the programme.

5. The commitment of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to implement its programme of work was welcomed. Given the strengthening of the capacity of the Department to fulfil its mandate, it was pointed out that more results would be expected. It was also emphasized that, in strengthening the capacity of the Department, due regard should be given to geographical balance.

6. Queries were raised about the degree of completion of missions' start-up kits and on measures to be taken to increase the number of Member States contributing to the standby arrangements, referred to in paragraphs 3.12 and 3.17, respectively.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 3, Peacekeeping operations, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 3.3

After the last sentence, insert a new sentence reading "Special attention will also be given to an increased understanding and recognition of gender issues and geographical balance in peacekeeping operations".

Subprogramme 1. Operations

Expected accomplishments

Paragraph 3.7

Delete the words "and an increased understanding and recognition of gender issues in peacekeeping operations" and delete the subsequent explanation provided in italic type within square brackets.

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 3.8

Delete the words "and the extent to which gender issues are identified and addressed in peacekeeping missions".

Subprogramme 2. Mission support

Objective

Paragraph 3.9

After the words "as well as other activities", insert the words "including training".

Expected accomplishments

Paragraph 3.11

Replace the words "increased operational readiness through better planning and deployment" with the words "improved and increased operational readiness through effective, expeditious and coordinated planning and deployment".

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 3.12

- **After the words "Indicators of achievement would include", insert the words "a reduction in the time lag between the adoption of resolutions and the deployment of civilian personnel and equipment to field missions".**
- **Replace the words "mission start-up kits" with the words "strategic deployment stocks modules".**

Subprogramme 3. Military and civilian police advice and planning

Expected accomplishments

Paragraph 3.16

After the words "Expected accomplishments would include", insert the words "rapid response in the deployment of trained and".

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 5
Legal affairs

1. At its 9th meeting, on 17 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 5, Legal affairs (A/57/6 (Prog 5)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 5 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Satisfaction was expressed with the services rendered by the Office of Legal Affairs to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. Queries were raised on the revisions related to subprogramme 4, Law of the sea and ocean affairs. The view was expressed that General Assembly resolutions 56/12 on oceans and the law of the sea and 56/13 on the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks did not contain specific mandates to warrant the revisions

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4. Questions were raised regarding the organization of the office and the implementation of the programme of action within the three groups of countries under its aegis, as well as the relationships with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries. The representative of the Secretary-General clarified that his office was working in close coordination with all the entities of the United Nations system involved. He indicated that the main responsibility of his office was to carry out effective coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 and the relevant programmes for landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, while UNCTAD focused on research and analytical activities, technical assistance and capacity-building. In that respect it was mentioned that the recurrent report on the least developed countries would continue to be prepared under the responsibility of UNCTAD but on a biennial as opposed to an annual basis.

5. It was felt that a reference to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico, March 2002) should be made in the overall orientation.

6. It was noted that the strategy was well spelled out, particularly with regard to maintaining of linkages with other parts of the United Nations system, and that it was in full accordance with the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Follow-up mechanism for coordinating, monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010" (A/56/645). It was also noted that a strategy to avoid duplicative work should be included in order to reflect the creation of the Office of the High Representative.

7. It was noted that, in several paragraphs (e.g., paras. 26.5 and 26.7 (a)), reference was made to the least developed countries only and not to the landlocked developing countries and the small island developing States. It was considered that the document could be improved by including equal references to all three groups of countries considered by the programme. It was also suggested that the list of legislative mandates should be expanded in that respect.

8. It was mentioned that one of the priorities of the Office of the High Representative during the period 2002-2005 would be the preparation, coordination and follow-up of the International Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation (General Assembly resolution 56/180, para. 13) and that the role of the Office of the High Representative in the coordination and the involvement of all United Nations agencies and other stakeholders in the preparatory process would be critical to the success of the meeting.

9. The view was expressed that one of the objectives of the programme was to assist the least developed countries in graduating from that category. Another view was that, while graduation was an important concept, it did not mean an automatic improvement of the conditions of life of the people concerned; what was important was to assist countries in improving their social indicators such as health, education, etc., so as to measure the progress made in the conditions and quality of life of their people.

10. The view was expressed that the indicators of achievement should be clear, precise and quantifiable in order to truly measure the progress achieved and the impact of activities. It was suggested that paragraph 26.9 should be expanded in that respect.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the text proposed by the Secretary-General for the new programme 26, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, for inclusion in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:**

Paragraph 26.4

In the first sentence, delete the words "and the subsequent report of the Secretary-General entitled 'Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration' (A/56/326)".

Paragraph 26.5

At the end of the paragraph, replace the words "reverse the trend by assisting countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action" with the words "help the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States to progress towards the achievement of the goals by assisting them in the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action as well as the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community and the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States."

Paragraph 26.6

Insert the words "the follow-up and coordination of" after the words "substantive responsibility for".

Paragraph 26.7 (a)

After "2001-2010", insert the phrase ", the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community and the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

Paragraph 26.7 (j)

After the word "Assisting", insert the phrase ", as appropriate,".

Paragraph 26.7 (k)

After the words "of these three groups", insert the phrase ", as well as other developing countries,".

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 5
Legal affairs

1. At its 9th meeting, on 17 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 5, Legal affairs (A/57/6 (Prog 5)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 5 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Satisfaction was expressed with the services rendered by the Office of Legal Affairs to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. Queries were raised on the revisions related to subprogramme 4, Law of the sea and ocean affairs. The view was expressed that General Assembly resolutions 56/12 on oceans and the law of the sea and 56/13 on the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks did not contain specific mandates to warrant the revisions

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proposed under paragraphs 5.27 and 5.28. It was emphasized that the services and assistance to be given to States Parties to the Convention should be limited to those States which had requested assistance.

4. Clarification was sought concerning the ongoing substantive support provided to the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court as indicated in paragraph 5.21 of subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, in the light of the recent ratification of the statute by the requisite number of States Parties.

5. Reference was made to paragraph 66 of the report of the Office of the Internal Oversight Services (E/AC.51/2002/5) regarding the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law under subprogramme 5, Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade, which, inter alia, reported that with the exception of the addition of a P-4 post in 2001, staff resources had remained at the 1968 level. In the light of that observation, the revisions contained in paragraph 5.35 for the strengthening of the secretariat of the Commission, in view of its increased workload, were welcomed. The view was expressed that the strengthening could be effected by utilizing existing resources. However, given the nature of the work of various organizational units in the Office of Legal Affairs, doubts were expressed whether the strengthening could be achieved within existing resources.

6. Clarification was sought concerning the impact of the deleted mandates previously referenced under subprogramme 3.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 5, Legal affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Sub-programme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services provided to the United Nations as a whole

Indicators of achievement

Paragraph 5.12

Retain the original wording of paragraph 5.12 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Sub-programme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Strategy

Paragraph 5.20

Retain the original wording of paragraph 5.20 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 5.21

In the second sentence, delete the words "and the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court", and in the subsequent explanation of change provided in italic type in square brackets, delete the reference to General Assembly resolution 56/85.

Sub-programme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Strategy

Paragraph 5.27

Retain the original wording of paragraph 5.27 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 5.28

- **In the third sentence, before the words "in particular developing States", insert the words "at their request".**
- **In the last sentence, after the words "consultations with the States parties will be carried out", insert the words "in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 56/13" and delete the rest of the sentence.**

Paragraph 5.29

At the end of the last sentence, add a new sentence reading "Such action will be assisted by more effective collaboration and coordination between the relevant parts of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations as a whole, and improved coordination at the inter-agency level, as requested in General Assembly resolution 56/12, paragraph 49".

Sub-programme 5
Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade

Paragraph 5.35

Replace the second sentence with the following: "In order to enable the Branch to carry out the work programme of the Commission, it is necessary to implement the request by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/79."

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

1. At its 10th meeting, on 18 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 7)).

2. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the revisions.

Discussion

3. General support was expressed for the proposed revisions.

4. Appreciation was expressed for the inclusion of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the report of the Secretary-General on the road map towards the implementation of the Declaration as new mandates, for references to the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and for

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references to other conferences that would provide further legislative authority for the programme.

5. The view was expressed that some of the narratives proposed for deletion, particularly in paragraphs 7.1 and 7.3, should be retained. It was considered that a reference to the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries should have been included under paragraph 7.1.

6. The inclusion in the revisions to the programme of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement approved by the General Assembly under section 9 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 was questioned on the grounds that most of them were designed to evaluate member States' performance instead of that of the Secretariat.

7. The view was expressed that in certain instances there was a missing link between the expected accomplishments and the indicators of achievement. It was further considered that a number of indicators of achievement were of a purely quantitative nature and needed to be reformulated in order to emphasize the qualitative nature of the change to be measured.

8. Support was expressed for the proposed revised expected accomplishment under paragraph 7.13 (c), regarding the establishment of an expanded network for information exchange and communication with Governments and civil society. The view was expressed that the indicator of achievement under paragraph 7.14 (g) should make reference to technical services provided in implementation of the Beijing Declaration.

9. It was stated that the implementation of centralized and systematized databases as required by the report of the Committee of the Whole of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly would contribute to the accomplishment of the goals of subprogramme 2, avoiding unnecessary duplication and reaching important sectors of the population.

10. It was proposed to retain the following narrative slated for deletion:

(a) Paragraph 7.33 (a), "of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and economies in transition to mobilize financial resources for development by advancing the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development;

(b) Paragraph 7.33 (d), "thus, the subprogramme would contribute to the formulation of new goals and strategies for long-term development";

(c) Paragraph 7.34, "a constructive dialogue on macroeconomic policy issues in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council through systematic surveys of the global economy and the provision of substantive support to the policy processes";

(d) Paragraph 7.35, "a percentage increase in the number of consensus decisions reached and action taken by the United Nations, the international community in general and Governments on measures to accelerate growth and development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including implementation of national, regional and international efforts to make the global financial system more responsive to the challenges of development that

emanate from the high-level event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

11. It was also proposed that a number of the revised expected accomplishments contained in paragraph 7.34 and indicators of achievement contained in paragraph 7.35 be reviewed because their current wording did not convey the idea of progress made.

12. The establishment of a new subprogramme 9, Sustainable forest development, was welcomed. Doubts were expressed whether the number of high-level ministerial segment meetings, including policy dialogues cited as an indicator of achievement under paragraph 7.43 (c), could be considered as an adequate measure of the accomplishments of the subprogramme. The view was expressed that references to the question of establishing an effective financing mechanism and to the multi-year programme of work should have been included under expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under paragraphs 7.42 and 7.43, respectively.

13. Support was expressed for the fact that the responsibility for the implementation of subprogramme 9 remained with the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests. It was stressed that no additional tasks should be incorporated into the programme of work adopted by the Forum.

14. The view was expressed that the agreed outcome of the recent International Conference on Financing for Development required sustained follow-up on the part of the United Nations system. It was considered that such follow-up could be accomplished by establishing a separate new subprogramme under programme 7.

Conclusions and recommendations

15. The Committee recommended that, following the endorsement of the Monterrey Consensus by the General Assembly, as adopted by the International Conference on Financing for Development on 22 March 2002, the Secretary-General prepare a proposal for a new subprogramme on financing for development under programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

16. The Committee recommended that, in accordance with the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in August 2002, the Secretary-General submit revisions to relevant subprogrammes for the consideration of and action by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

17. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General in programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:

Paragraph 7.1

– **Retain the original wording of the second sentence of paragraph 7.1 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.**

– In the third sentence, after the words "United Nations to", insert the word "meeting", and insert after the words "everywhere and to" insert the word "effectively".

– In the fifth sentence, after the word "consensus", insert the words "strengthening of partnership of Governments of the North and South on the one hand and between major groups or relevant stakeholders on the other".

– In the sixth sentence, replace the words "those three areas" with the words "those few areas".

Paragraph 7.2

– Towards the end of the first sentence, before the words "the Millennium Declaration (2000)", insert the words "the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS (2001) and the special session of the General Assembly on Children (2002)".

– At the end of the first sentence, after the words "the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (2001)", add the words "and the Third United Nations Conference on Least-Developed Countries".

– Replace the last sentence with the following: "In addition, it is expected that the decisions of the General Assembly on the outcome of the Monterrey Consensus, adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development, the International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, and the outcome of the World Summit for Sustainable Development, to be held in 2002, will provide further legislative authority to the programme".

Paragraph 7.3

– Retain the original wording of the second sentence of paragraph 7.3 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1, up to the word "development", and delete the words "and the integrated follow-up to the global conferences".

– Revise the new text of paragraph 7.3, which reads "in particular the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences" to read "implementation and follow-up of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields".

Paragraph 7.6 (b)

– After the words "United Nations", insert the words "in conformity with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council".

– Replace the words "diverse stakeholders" with the words "diverse institutional stakeholders".

– Delete the words "and by adapting the Council's working methods to new requirements".

Paragraph 7.7 (d)

– After the word "Assembly", insert the words "in accordance with its resolution 56/76".

– After the word "participation", insert the words "in accordance with the established rules of procedures and practices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council with respect to the representation".

– Replace the word "universities" with the word "academia".

Paragraph 7.7 (f)

Replace paragraph 7.7 (f) with text similar to paragraph 21 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/285, as follows: "Making more use of the regular consultations provided for in paragraph 43 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 51/241, including between the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General will provide those meetings with secretarial support, as appropriate, including written information to Member States through the chairmen of the regional groups".

Paragraph 7.8

Retain expected accomplishments (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) as approved in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.9 (a)

Replace the words "and relevant issues" with the words "concerning economic and social development issues".

Paragraph 7.9 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.9 (b) with the following: "Report by Member States that dialogues, round-table discussions and panels are informative and relevant and contribute to intergovernmental deliberations, which should be disseminated, including through the Internet."

Paragraph 7.9 (c)

At the end of paragraph 7.9 (c), add the words "as appropriate".

Paragraph 7.9 (d)

Revise paragraph 7.9 (d) to read "Report by Member States that inputs from concerned parts of the Organization and the system as a whole are relevant, coordinated and timely".

Paragraph 7.9 (f)

Delete the words "and others".

Paragraph 7.9 (g)

Revise paragraph 7.9 (g) to read "Feedback from Member States shows that the triennial review of operational activities for development and related activities are relevant".

Paragraph 7.10

Replace the words "the Security Council resolution on women, peace and security" with the words "the relevant resolutions of the principal organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council".

Paragraph 7.13 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.13 (b) with the following: "Enhanced capacity to provide effective gender advisory services that assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in implementing the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, to Member States, and enhanced involvement of all other actors to effectively implement the recommendations contained in the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and subsequent intergovernmental mandates, and the pertinent aspects of the Millennium Declaration".

Paragraph 7.13 (f)

Replace paragraph 7.13 (f) with the following: "Enhanced capacity of Member States and enhanced involvement of all other actors to effectively implement the recommendations contained in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly".

Paragraph 7.14 (a)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.14 (a) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.14 (c)

Replace the words "Satisfaction expressed by States parties with regard to" with the words "Reports by Member States that", and at the end of the subparagraph, add the words "are useful".

Paragraph 7.14 (g)

- **Replace the words "The satisfaction of" with the words "Reports by".**
- **Replace the words "and the Millennium Declaration" with the words "and the relevant programmes and platforms for action adopted by the General Assembly and international conferences, including the Millennium Declaration".**

Paragraph 7.15

In the third sentence, after the words "older persons", add the words "including the Madrid Declaration and the 2002 International Plan of Action on Ageing".

Paragraph 7.16 (a)

Replace the words "proportion of the world's people" with the words "1990 proportion of the world's people".

Paragraph 7.17 (a)

After the words "the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development", insert the words "the International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002".

Paragraph 7.17 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.17 (b) with the following: "Improved ability of Member States, through the provision of effective assistance, to pursue the goal of eradicating poverty through decisive national action and international cooperation".

Paragraph 7.17 (c)

Revise the beginning of the new text in paragraph 7.17 (c) to read "Increased awareness of national Governments and the international community to realize through their strengthened capacity the International Plan of Action on Ageing (2002)", and retain the rest of the new text.

Paragraph 7.18 (b)

– Retain the original wording of subparagraph 7.18 (b) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

– Retain new text and renumber accordingly.

Paragraph 7.33 (a) (old)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.33 (a) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1, and replace the words "High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development to be held in 2001" with the words "International Conference on Financing for Development, held in 2002".

Paragraph 7.33 (a) (new)

Revise new paragraph 7.33 (a) to read "Supporting efforts to achieve good governance within each country, good governance at the international level and transparency in the financial and monetary systems, and to mobilize financial resources for development as called for in the Millennium Declaration".

Paragraph 7.33 (b)

– **Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.33 (b) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1, and renumber accordingly.**

– **Revise new paragraph 7.33 (b) to read "Enhancing the efforts to implement the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on Financing for Development, in particular in the areas of domestic resource mobilization, official development assistance, foreign direct investment, including international private capital flows, trade, the effective use of public private partnerships, the international financial system and the financial opportunities and challenges presented by the increased role of the private sector in economic activity and the globalization of financial markets".**

Paragraph 7.33 (d)

Retain the original wording of subparagraph 7.33 (d) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.33 (e)

Replace paragraph 7.33 (e) with the following: "Fostering closer collaboration and understanding among the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions, as called for in the Millennium Declaration".

Paragraph 7.34

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.34 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.34 (a)

At the end of the subparagraph, add the following: "inter alia, to address the special needs of the least developed countries".

Paragraph 7.34 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.34 (b) with the following: "To hold an exchange of views in order to facilitate enhanced understanding in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and the countries with economies in transition, of the actions necessary, including greater assistance to mobilize and allocate, in an efficient and gender-sensitive manner, domestic financial resources for development".

Paragraph 7.34 (c)

After the words "financial crises", insert the words "and appropriate mechanisms to address, in a sustainable manner, the problems derived from difficulties to pay foreign debt".

Paragraph 7.35

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.35 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Subprogramme 9

Change the title of subprogramme 9 to read "Sustainable forest management".

Paragraph 7.42 (d)

Replace the words "reporting by Governments" with the words "voluntary reporting by Governments".

Paragraph 7.43 (c)

Replace the words "The number of" with the words "The effectiveness of".

Paragraph 7.43 (d)

Replace the word "mechanism" with the word "approach".

Paragraph 7.43 (e) (new)

Add a new subparagraph 7.43 (e) to read "The implementation of the multi-year programme of work as well as the programme of action of the United Nations Forum of Forests".

Legislative mandates

Overall programme

Add General Assembly resolution 55/279 (Implementation of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010).

Subprogramme 3

Add General Assembly resolution 52/194 (Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty).

Subprogramme 7

Add reference to General Assembly resolution 56/207 (Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication).

Subprogramme 9

Add Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35 (Report on the fourth session of the International Forum on Forests).

Add Economic and Social Council decision 2001/293 (Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its first session and provisional agenda for its second session).